Beggar homes

*186. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the beggar homes, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to rehabilitate the beggars;

(c) the number of beggars actually rehabilitated through these beggar homes during the last three years;

(d) whether Government have any scheme to provide micro credits to such rehabilitated beggars;

(e) if so, the details of number of beggars that have been provided with such credit; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (f) Beggary is an intricate problem having socio-cultural and economic ramifications. It is also a kind of wanton deviation on the part of those who beg willfully, habitually and professionally.

As it is a law and order problem, eighteen States and three Union Territories have enacted special laws.

Beggar homes are set up by the State Governments as per the requirements subject to availability of funds.

Power allotted to Madhya Pradesh

†*187. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 300 megawatt of electricity had been allotted to Madhya Pradesh from central power plants of eastern areas as on July, 2002;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether supply of power being made to the State has been reduced to 50 megawatts;

(c) if so, the reasons for reducing the power supply; and

(d) by when the supply of power would be resumed as per earlier allotment?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of less than anticipated growth in demand for power in the Eastern Region (ER), in ealier years, the unallocated power of NTPC stations in the ER as well as the shares temporarily surrendered by ER constituents, had been allocated to States/UTs in other regions over the last few years. However, in recent years ER constituents have been demanding repatriation of the power surrendered by them as well as allocation of unallocted power to them in view of the increase in their requirement. Consequently, the allocation to States/UTs in other regions from the ER has been decreasing. Accordingly, the allocation of ER power to Madhya Pradesh also got reduced to 50 MW.

In November, 2006, following the sudden outage of Ranganadi HEP and consequent shortage of power in Assam, 46 MW power from Eastern Region (ER) was allocated to Assam by reducing the allocations of beneficiaries of ER power, including about 4 MW from the allocation of Madhya Pradesh.

In view of the foregoing the assistance to Madhya Pradesh from the central plants in the Eastern Region is not likely to be increased to the earlier level of 300 MW.

Fellowship for SCs and STs

†*188. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fellowship is provided by Government to the students of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes for higher education;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.